

**ATTACHMENT 5.1**  
**STATUS OF ALTERNATIVE GROWTH PROJECTIONS**

**COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**MARCH 06, 2003**

# MEMO

**DATE:** March 6, 2003  
**TO:** Community, Economic and Human Development (CEHD) Committee  
**FROM:** Huasha Liu, Manager, Planning Data and Forecasting  
**SUBJECT:** Status of Alternative Growth Projections

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**Recommended Action:** Information only.

**Background:**

The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize the status of the five alternative growth projections for the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan Growth Forecast. All of these projections will be moved forward for policy debate. The five projections discussed are:

1. Trend Projection
2. Local Input Projection
3. Technically Balanced Growth Projection (TBGP)
4. "COMPASS Scenario 1"
5. "COMPASS Scenario 2"

**Summary:**

The following is a description and information on the status of each of the projections:

**1. Trend Projection**

The Trend Projection is a technical projection that is based on historical data and incorporates key future demographic and economic trends. It utilizes demographic and economic models in order to develop projections of population, households and employment. The Trend Projection was developed between September 2001 and September 2002 with extensive technical expert, subregional and local involvement.

**2. Local Input Projection**

The Local Input Projection is a compilation of input received from more than 90% of the 193 jurisdictions within the SCAG region. The local review process took place between September 15, 2002 and November 15, 2002. The trend projection data was mailed to the planning directors of each jurisdiction for their review and comment. The data set is now complete.

**3. Technically Balanced Growth Projection (TBGP)**

This projection utilizes local input as a technical base and ensures reasonable relationships between population, households and employment utilizing criteria approved by the

Forecasting Technical Task Force (FTTF). The TBGP process began in July 2002 and culminated with the approval of the TBGP by the FTTF at its February 10, 2003 meeting. Amemo from FTTF detailing the TBGP is attached. Representative from the FTTF will make a brief oral presentation.

4. **“COMPASS Scenario 1”**

This projection uses the regional and county totals from the Trend Projection and a proportional distribution of the Local Input Projection as a starting point. Redistribution will occur to more efficiently utilize the existing regional transportation network. Growth will be focused around transportation nodes and along transportation corridors with attention to transit and urban design improvements. The final projection will be consistent with the criteria developed by the FTTF. "COMPASS Scenario 1" will be developed through feedback obtained through collaboration among staff, consultants, selected stakeholders, and the Growth Visioning Sub-committee by March 2003.

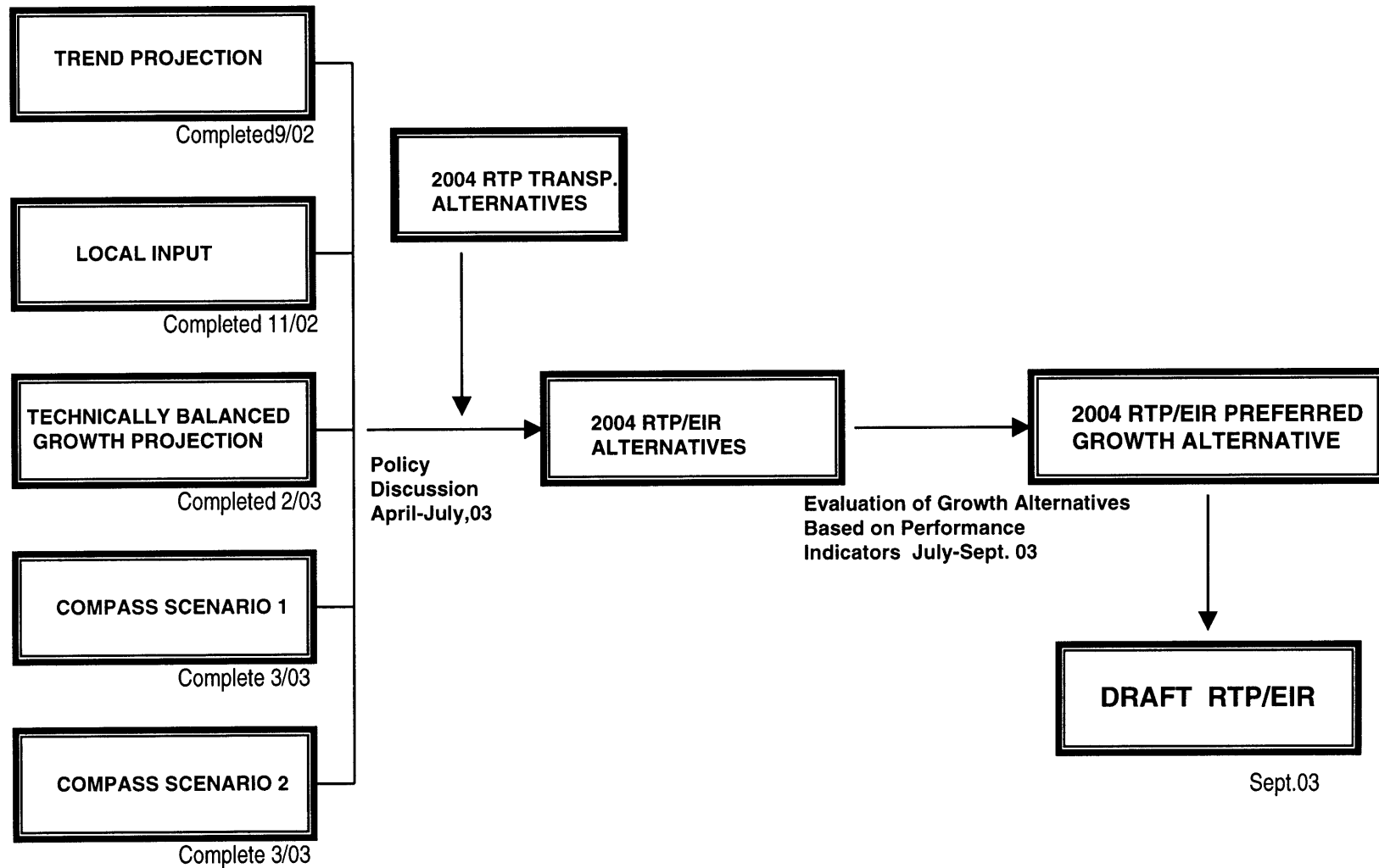
5. **“COMPASS Scenario 2”**

This projection uses the regional and county totals from the Trend Projection and a proportional distribution of the Local Input Projection as a starting point. Redistribution will occur to focus a greater proportion of new growth in outlying areas with high growth potential. The final projection will be consistent with the criteria developed by the FTTF. "COMPASS Scenario 1" will be developed through feedback obtained through collaboration among staff, consultants, selected stakeholders, and the Growth Visioning Sub-committee by March 2003.

**Schedule:**

The five projections are will be moved forward for policy discussion (see attached flowchart) by SCAG technical and policy committees beginning in early April 2003. Draft regional policies will be incorporated during the April to July 2003 time period to produce RTP/EIR forecast alternatives. The performance indicators will be utilized to evaluate alternatives between July and September 2003. The preferred alternative will be selected in September 2003 and released for EIR public review. The RTP Plan Forecast preferred alternative is expected to be adopted by the Regional Council in the spring of 2004.

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# MEMO

**DATE:** March 6, 2003  
**TO:** Community, Economic and Human Development (CEHD)  
**FROM:** Forecasting Technical Task Force (FTTF)  
**SUBJECT:** **Technically Balanced Growth Projection (TBGP)**

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**Recommended Action:** Information only.

**Background:**

The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize the Technically Balanced Growth Projection (TBGP) that was approved (with a vote of 12 yes and 8 no with three abstentions) by the FTTF at its February 10, 2003 meeting. This action is the culmination of a lengthy process that began in September 2002 and involved numerous FTTF Steering Committee and regular FTTF meetings. In addition, a joint CEHD/FTTF workshop was held on January 27<sup>th</sup> at SCAG to discuss the TBGP and its relationship to the 2004 RTP Growth Forecast process.

The TBGP was developed utilizing technical evaluation criteria that were approved by the FTTF and presented to the CEHD and Regional Council on several occasions. The purpose of these evaluation criteria is to ensure reasonable relationships between population, households and employment at the regional and county levels. The development of the TBGP projection, one of five projections<sup>1</sup> to be moved forward for policy debate, was authorized by both the CEHD and Regional Council in January 2003.

A number of approaches were considered in the formulation of the TBGP at both the regional and county levels. The first step was to determine consistency with technical criteria at the regional level in order to maintain reasonable relationships between population, households and employment. Based on that determination target values for 2030, and growth over the 2000-2030 projection period, were developed for population, households and employment that allowed for consistency with those criteria. The second step was to determine the distributions by county that were required in order to meet those targets. A total of three TBGP approaches for 2030 were presented and discussed at the February 10<sup>th</sup> FTTF meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> The other four projections are: (a) the trend projection, which is based on recent growth trends and reasonably foreseeable changes in those trends (e.g., aging of the population), but without benefit of local input; (b) the sum of local input provided by individual jurisdictions on the trend projection; and (c) two projections that will be derived from the Growth Visioning process.

**Summary:**

The TBGP that was approved by the FTTF includes the following:

- 2010 – consistent with the local input for population, households and employment. The local input for 2010 was very close to the trend projection and no adjustments were considered necessary.
- 2030 – Employment is consistent with local input. In order to ensure consistency with the evaluation criteria, the projected population for 2030 is 22,045,000 and the projected households are 7,446,000. The distribution of population by county is Imperial County – 266,000, Los Angeles – 11,722,000, Orange – 3,644,000, Riverside – 2,911,00, San Bernardino – 2,523,000 and Ventura – 978,000. The distribution of households by county is Imperial – 89,000, Los Angeles – 4,026,000, Orange – 1,212,000, Riverside – 992,000, San Bernardino – 803,000 and Ventura – 324,000.

SCAG staff and the FTTF will proceed next with disaggregations of these county-level values to the smaller geographic areas of cities, subregions, census tracts and traffic analysis zones for purposes of planning analysis including transportation and air quality modeling.